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Minoru Hashimoto

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EXAMINER

MIRZA, ADNAN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2145

DATE MAILED: 08/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-12,19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito et al (U.S. 5,671,354) and further in view of Shiotsu et al (U.S. 6,993,358)

As per claims 1,6,19 Ito disclosed A communication system, comprising: a plurality of client terminal devices connected to a predetermined network, each client terminal device being assigned a unique identification number (col. 4, lines 21-28); and a communication server machine connected to the network and operable to manager, based on the identification numbers, user information related to each client terminal device which indicates at least conditions under which each client terminal device is connected to the network the conditions including at least a transmission band associated with each client terminal device (col. 2, lines 27-41) and when requested by a user to make a communication with another user, to select a communication application that is suitable for both the user and the another user based on the user information, and to make a connection for communication between the client terminal device of the user and the client terminal device of the another user (col. 2, lines 55-66).

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However Ito failed to disclose the conditions including at least a transmission band associated with each client terminal device. Wherein the conditions further include a type of peripheral device associated with each client terminal device.

In the same field of endeavor Shiotsu disclosed, "The user may select a setting mode display on the personal computer 1 and enter titles of available information processing devices data, such as types of the information processing devices with which the personal computer is to communicate or protocol by which communication is to be done. Then, he or she modifies, through a keyboard, the transmission power default values (for example, the highest transmission power of 1 m W and other values) by entering the higher transmission power level H_i or H_{ij} and the lower transmission power level L_{ij} for each of the entered application programs or device data" (col. 7, lines 20-30)

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have incorporated that The user may select a setting mode display on the personal computer 1 and enter titles of available information processing devices data, such as types of the information processing devices with which the personal computer is to communicate or protocol by which communication is to be done. Then, he or she modifies, through a keyboard, the transmission power default values (for example, the highest transmission power of 1 m W and other values) by entering the higher transmission power level H_i or H_{ij} and the lower transmission power level L_{ij} for each of the entered application programs or device data as

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taught by Ito in the method and system of Shiotsu to increase the efficiency of managing the network bandwidth and selecting more efficient transmission rate.

2. As per claims 2,9 Ito-Shiotsu disclosed A communication method, comprising: managing user information which indicates at least conditions under which client terminal devices are connected to a predetermined network based on unique identification numbers respectively assigned to the client terminal devices (Ito, col. 2, lines 55-66), the conditions including at least a transmission band associated with each of the client terminal devices (Shiotsu, col. 7, lines 20-30); selecting a communication application that is suitable for both a user and another user with which the user desires to communicate based on the user information; and making a connection for communication between the client terminal device of the user and the client terminal device of the another user (Ito, col. 8, lines 6-16). Wherein the conditions further include a type of peripheral device associated with each of the client terminal device (Shiotsu, col. 7, lines 20-30).

3. As per claims 3,10 Ito-Shiotsu disclosed A user terminal device, comprising: a list storage unit operable to store a list containing at least identification numbers respectively assigned to terminal devices for communication, addresses of the terminal devices (Ito, col. 5, lines 24-35), and conditions for connecting the terminal devices to a network; an application storage unit operable to store a plurality of communication applications corresponding to different conditions for connecting the terminal devices to the network (Ito, col. 2, lines 55-66), the conditions including at least a transmission band associated with each of the terminal devices (Shiotsu, col. 7, lines 20-30); and a connection controller operable, when a user of the terminal

device selects a communication party from the list, to read out from the application storage unit a communication application that meets the conditions for connecting both the user terminal device and the terminal device of the communication party to the network, and to make a connection for communication between the user terminal device and the terminal device of the communication party (Ito, col. 6, lines 10-26). Wherein the conditions further include a type of peripheral device associated with each of the terminal devices (Shiotsu, col. 7, lines 20-30).

4. As per claims 4,7,11 Ito-Shiotsu disclosed wherein the list is stored in the list storage unit after being downloaded from a communication server machine connected with the user terminal device through the network (Ito, col. 7, lines 19-27).

5. As per claims 5,8,12 Ito-Shiotsu disclosed wherein at least one of the list storage unit and the application storage unit is selected from the group consisting of a hard disk drive and a memory card (Ito, col. 4, lines 21-28).

Response to Arguments

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Applicant's arguments filed 02/09/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Response to applicant's arguments are as follows.

6. Applicant argued that prior art did not disclose, "conditions which include a transmission band; a type of peripheral device associated with each terminal device".

As to applicant's argument Shiotsu disclosed, "The user may select a setting mode display on the personal computer 1 and enter titles of available information processing devices data, such as types of the information processing devices with which the personal computer is to communicate or protocol by which communication is to be done. Then, he or she modifies, through a keyboard, the transmission power default values (for example, the highest transmission power of 1 m W and other values) by entering the higher transmission power level Hi or Hij and the lower transmission power level Lij for each of the entered application programs or device data (col. 7, lines 20-30).

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Adnan Mirza whose telephone number is (571)-272-3885.

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8. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday during normal business hours. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on (571)-272-3933. The fax for this group is (703)-746-7239. [The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866)-217-9197 (toll-free).

AM

Adnan Mirza

Examiner


JASON CARDONE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER